

No. 8

A FLYING-Saucer U F O O L O G I



SPRING 1955

# FLYING SAUCER NEWS

Edited by

Richard Hughes

JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU AND FLYING SAUCER CLUB



## ● THIS SIMPLY COULDN'T GO ON !

Your Editor amidst piles of duplicated pages—at work on the last issue  
(See "New Format"—p.2)

- ADAMSKI CONTROVERSY RENEWED
- BOY SNAPS SAUCER NEAR WOLVERHAMPTON
- U.F.O'S OVER ISRAEL              ● PHOTO FROM AFRICA
- B.F.S.B. NEWSLETTER—Club affairs
- PHOTOGRAPHS AND RADIATION—feature article

# POSTAL Saucerers

The following members would like to correspond with others, on 'Saucers' and kindred topics :



PETER MATSON, Brook House,  
23 Roland Gardens, London S.W.7.  
(Wants correspondents abroad—especially in the Soviet Union(!) Germany and Italy).

G. L. MENEFY, No. 1, R.D.,  
Kiwitahi, Morrinsville, N.Z.  
(Wants to contact local Groups).

A. N. DIXON, 122 Fosse Road,  
Farndon, Newark, Notts.

1921892 Cpl. BURCH,  
c/o Cpl's. Club, 109 M.U.,  
R.A.F. ABYAD, M.E.A.F. 25.

**NOTE :** This service is restricted to members only (see below) and requests for insertion should be sent to the Editor—on a postcard please—bearing the sender's membership number. It is suggested that Saucerers under 18 years of age include their ages, so that they will be contacted by members of their own age group.

# New Format

HERE we are, folks, in pukka "letterpress" at last! The circulation of the NEWS has increased so much as to warrant this step—and, anyway, to produce 2000 copies of this issue by hand would have been virtually impossible, in spare time.

We hope you like this new size and style, and we can promise many improvements with each issue, as we have to feel our way with the new medium, just as we did with duplicating at first. (For instance, compare the Spring 1953 and '54 issues, and you'll see what we mean).

Commencing with this issue, the NEWS is to be on sale to the general public—and we are hoping that all GROUPS will co-operate in assisting with distribution, and in turn seek the co-operation of their local newsagents. This will attract new members to the Groups as well as enlarge still further our circulation—thus enabling us to increase the number of pages of "Britain's Leading 'Saucer' Journal."

## THE BRITISH F.S. BUREAU and F.S. CLUB

An amalgamation of the leading British Saucer organisations under one Banner—the Club having been founded in 1952 and the Bureau in 1953—amalgamation taking place in April, 1954.

- BUREAU members take part in meetings and various activities, research, etc., at the Bureau's Headquarters in Bristol. Public meetings are held monthly in the City, often with celebrity Guest Speakers. Lectures and talks are also given, on request, in surrounding districts.
- CLUB membership is International and is for all those who cannot attend the Bureau's meetings, but who wish to associate themselves with the Saucer movement.
- ALL members receive the NEWS by post, and also a membership card, eligibility for the 'Postal' column, to wear a Club badge and to join—or form—a Local Group.

Annual 10/- Subscription : The Registrar, 71 Chedworth Road HORFIELD, BRISTOL, 7



# Controversy Renewed!

Editorial

Certain far-reaching statements have been made in an eleven-page "expose" of the Adamski story which appeared in the January 1955 issue of NEXUS, a Saucer magazine published by James Moseley, in New Jersey.

THE Adamski controversy has been renewed, recently, with some startling revelations—the most significant of which appear to be those of Jerrold Baker, who was credited with one of the photographs in "Flying Saucers Have Landed."

Baker now denies he took this photograph.

Moreover, he states that this was not the only "Brownie" photo taken; that George Adamski was the photographer—and that other Brownie photos were destroyed at Adamski's request. The photo, says Baker, was not taken on the date indicated—(Dec. 13th).

Baker claims to have heard a tape-recorded account, of what was to take place, who was to go, and so on—several days before the desert contact! He states it was some sort of "metaphysical discourse"—a communication received through Adamski by psychic means.

That isn't all. Baker states that he and Karl Hunrath saw what looked to them like the framework for a model of a saucer, one morning, behind Adamski's cabin, and questioned him about it—at which Adamski became uneasy—but explained that it was an experimental television antenna.

These seem, to us, to be the main points—but Moseley has conducted a very thorough investigation, interviewing witnesses (some of whom now claim to have been grossly misquoted in the book) and making his own enquiries—and his arguments are apparently rational, and persuasive.

Points raised include the casting of doubt as to whether any of the witnesses *actually saw* the meeting take place—how the Venusian could exist in the Earth's atmosphere—and why it was necessary for the witnesses to remain at such a great distance.

After a searching examination of these points and others, quoting much correspondence and personal interviews, Moseley concludes that—though Adamski may have a sincere and idealistic reason for writing the story—perhaps to put across in dramatic fashion philosophical principles in

The B.F.S.B. Committee proposes to treat the Moseley criticism of the Adamski story as a full scale discussion subject, since Moseley's reported experiences have obviously resulted from considerable investigation and warrant serious consideration.

The committee is not taking sides in this controversy, but is interested in studying Moseley's criticism with a view to determining whether or not it is free from faulty reasoning. A full analysis of the committee's findings will be published in due course.

which he believes—it is nevertheless a hoax.

**FLYING SAUCER NEWS** does not see any reason for deciding, in a hurry, one way or the other—but maintains that it is probably ‘better to err through caution than credulity.’ **Certainly either Baker or Adamski is lying, concerning the photographs**, and we shall follow the course of events with no little interest.

**FOOTNOTE.** The March edition of **NEXUS** carries an article by English writer, John Pitt, “Leslie in the Limelight”—suggesting that Desmond Leslie has been rather “led up the garden” by occult friends, and—since Adamski’s next book contains no photos nor offers any witnesses—that Leslie might well be wishing to disentangle himself from co-authorship.

#### STOP PRESS :

In a thirteen-minute trunk call to **DESMOND LESLIE**, your Editor ascertained the following :

(1) Mr. Leslie is not ‘co-authoring’ Adamski’s new book, simply because it is already full length. He is, however, writing a foreword. The publication is being handled from the U.S.A.—and the British publishers have not yet been named.

(2) George Adamski will not be visiting the Albert Hall, London, to speak on May 18th (as was provisionally announced) but may not come to England until after the book appears, either late this year or early next.

(3) Regarding Jerrold Baker—Desmond Leslie is as puzzled at anyone else, since he has letters—and a tape-recording of Baker, telling how he took the photo !

The whole thing becomes more and more confused, and Mr. Leslie suggests it is more to the point to report and analyse CURRENT saucer incidents instead of holding inquests as Moseley does. Otherwise, we may miss something . . . .

## “Something in this Saucer BUSINESS!”

### —1955 version

The new, commercially published **FLYING SAUCER REVIEW** made its appearance in February, from its Werner Laurie headquarters. It is a well produced 16-page publication, with an attractive modernistic cover design.

This first issue is mostly made up of general articles on the “How it all Began” theme—but there is also a very intriguing and well illustrated theory on the ‘Labrador Mystery,’ by Leonard Cramp. However, the general reaction seems to have been one of disappointment, and the feeling that there will have to be a big improvement if the mag is to warrant the £1.1.0 asked for four issues.

Britain has set the precedent this time—but we now hear that commercialism has also set in ‘across the pond’ and that an American publisher is to issue a magazine called—of all things—“**FLYING SAUCER NEWS**. ”

We take a **VERY** dim view of this !

## Wolverhampton youth snaps 'Saucer' over his back garden!

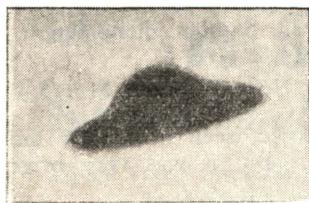
WE always like to lead off our list of 'sightings' with a 'Star item'—but this time were beginning to think that the Saucers had been taking a vacation over the Christmas period, as reports were practically non-existent, and it seemed the bustling shoppers were too busy to look skywards. Then, a Wolverhampton paper came up with this photograph—subsequently published in the '*Junior Sketch*'—though why it did not make adult news we haven't a clue !



On the 28th or 29th of December, 1954 (he can't quite remember which), Harold John Cummins, sixteen year-old schoolboy, of Wednesfield, near Wolverhampton, was looking out of his window, which faces east—watching the birds. Suddenly he saw a large object come in from the north, but at first thought it was only another bird and didn't pay much attention to it.

However, it slowed down in the sky, and hovered ; he saw its disc-like shape and realised that it must be a Flying Saucer !

His camera was lying on the window sill, where he kept it to photograph birds, so he grabbed it and took a photograph—through the glass. When he looked up after replacing it on the sill, he saw that the strange craft had vanished.



This enlarged detail shows the well defined "classical" saucer shape.

Harold—a quiet, softspoken boy, whose hobby is building radio sets—did not have the film developed for some days, and said nothing about his experience lest people laugh at him. But when the prints came, sure enough—there was his Flying Saucer, small, but of the typical "saucer" shape.

The time of the sighting was between 3.30 and 3.45 p.m., and the day was overcast. Earlier in the day a snowstorm had left a thin

covering on the ground. The saucer was black and did not shine in any way at all. It was at an angle of about 45° above the horizon when the picture was taken.

- ★ B.F.S.B. & F.S.C. Representatives have interviewed young Cummins and are, to date, satisfied as to the genuine nature of both story and photo. We do not accept any claim lightly, however, and the picture will no doubt come in for a great deal of further scrutiny.
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## other recent BRITISH SIGHTINGS

*a brief round-up of Reports since last issue\**

Either the Christmas period dulled our observation powers—or else you readers were too busy to send us those cuttings—for there are only six items in the list this time—as against over thirty in our last. But of course, saucers must have a rest sometimes, too !

**OCTOBER 28th. St. LEONARDS :** Rocket-like, cigar-shaped object, with "short, glowing trail of light"—vanished out to sea silently. Seen 6.40 p.m. travelling in north-south direction. Also at Pottlesden, Guestling, Clive Vale and Sedlescombe—fairly low, and very fast. In view about 8 seconds.

**NOVEMBER 24th. SOUTHAMPTON :** White disc, "like a small moon" moving across the sky—seen through 2½in. telescope by a member of Southampton Astronomical Society (Mrs. A. Marley), at 12.15 a.m. It was not visible to the naked eye. It was moving dead South over Southampton Water—but suddenly turned on itself—and came back.

(Southampton Daily Echo—24/11/54)

**JANUARY 30th, 1955. MALVERN :** "Large green fluorescent ball" seen by local milk-roundsman at 6.30 a.m. It gave off a glow and was travelling west to east. No sound. Confirmation received also from two policemen, a bus conductor and others. Similar phenomenon had been reported about ten days before.

(Worcester Evening News & Times—31/1/55)

**FEBRUARY 2nd. GRIMSBY :** Bright object seen in sky by motor-mechanic, who at first took it for a star. But it was very bright—

\* It was hoped to be able to "asterisk" the sightings fully investigated and detailed in the new MONTHLY RESEARCH BULLETINS, but at the time of going to press this information has not reached the Editor. It is suggested that those requiring fuller details write to Mr. Knewstub, Director of Research, care of B.F.S.B.

and suddenly "took a dive at high speed"—and stopped again, still very high. First seen at 7.30—he watched it, joined by a friend, for 20 minutes. It then moved "at terrific speed" across the sky—and stopped yet again . . . and again! Next time it swung in an arc, swerved at high speed horizontally and then shot upwards. No features of its surface were discernible, as it was so bright. R.A.F. stated no reports of anything unusual from radar or aircrews.

(Grimsby Evening Telegraph—4/2/55)

**FEBRUARY 11th. CHICHESTER:** What looked like "frisking tadpoles" gleaming in the sunlight, described by three girl secretaries. "They seemed to be chasing each other, bobbing around and around" they said. Looked like bubbles—except they were flat and disc-like, and glinted in the sun. Disappeared at speed still jiggling, towards Portsmouth.

At East Wittering (Nr. Chichester) a 14 year old boy claimed seeing a cigar-shaped object, which stopped momentarily and then disappeared into the clouds.

**At Tangmere R.A.F. Station Met. Office the information about the "saucers" was taken seriously, and the skies scanned every half hour, but observers reported nothing unusual.**

(Evening News—London—12/2/55)

**NOTE:** Subsequently this "tadpole" or "bubble" sighting was "explained away" as balls of tinsel, used by the R.A.F. for radar-testing—which were alleged to have been released at about the time of the sighting. However, Local B.F.S.B. investigator E. Sears, of Fareham has checked weather conditions on that date, and finds that though the "balls of tinsel" were travelling (much faster than any aircraft) in a south to west direction, the prevailing wind was blowing from the north-west. The "tinsel balls" could hardly have accounted for the "cigar," either.




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..... depends on YOU!

Most of our reports come from the "local rags," since the National dailies seem to have dropped the subject, so do keep on sending us those cuttings!

## More European Reports

There have been many more sightings over Europe, since the prolific visitations last Autumn. Here are just a few :

Six red glowing discs were seen by the inhabitants of **Foederlich**, in Austria—flying in a perfect semi-circle. One disc turned back and zigzagged to the south, the rest continuing north-east. (October 2nd.)

Three shiny metallic objects with luminous blue trails flew silently in V-formation over **Yugoslavia** at an estimated speed of 1,900 mph., on October 25th.

Three hundred Swiss soldiers, on manoeuvres near **Grandvillard**, watched a disc-shaped object with a red glow on its silvery surface appear at about 10,000 ft.—and remain motionless. It then moved suddenly away in a southerly direction.

Six silvery objects, trailing streams of red, hovered over **Steyr**, near **Vienna**, early in January.

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## U.F.O's over Israel

**FLYING** Saucers of many shapes invaded the Holy Land during October. A physicist, police and army officers, officials of aviation companies and journalists were among those who witnessed sights over **Jerusalem**, **Bethlehem**, the sea of **Galilee** and along the coast.

Simultaneous reports of saucers came on two successive evenings and there was one daylight sighting reported at **Safad**, in Galilee.

Jerusalem physicist, Mr. A. Kabali, reported that he saw a "brilliant object that zigzagged over the city," lighting the sky for a few seconds before disappearing.

The previous night, a low-flying disc had been reported to Jerusalem police ; it was brown in colour and smoke was pouring from two holes. People in **Tel Aviv** reported "flying cigars"—and an official of the Israeli National Aviation Co., Mr. A. Hollander, said he saw "an ellipsoid object" which appeared on the horizon and travelled at great speed, leaving a "shining white trail."

Unlike European reports during the period, there were no stories of "Martians"—nor even of grounded Saucers.

## ● AUSTRALIA

### Identified flying objects !

ON December 15th, two objects identified as "flying saucers" by a Royal Australian Navy pilot were tracked on radar sets, announced Navy Minister Hosiah Francis in Melbourne.

The pilot was joined in the air by two strange craft while he was flying back to base after dark. He reported to the air controller at Nowra, whose radar showed all three craft flying together.

The pilot identified himself on radar by flying according to a pattern.—*Reuter*.

(The caption and italics are ours—Ed.)

## ● NEW ZEALAND

### *Cigar-shape - - - mystery Bang !*

A mysterious explosion of terrific force shook the west coast of New Zealand's South Island on February 6th, after people had reported seeing a "strange silver shape" flash overhead. Observers at widely separated points said it was cigar-shaped and travelling at tremendous speed.

It lost altitude as it moved inland, and observers said it was in two parts—comparable in size to a 40-gallon drum and a large saucepan.

The "flying barrel" was first reported as it crossed the west coast and was seen 200ft. above Inchbonnie, a farming community 30 miles inland—and then flew towards the mountains.

The explosion was heard and felt over several hundred square miles, and at Greymouth and further south, people reported feeling a pronounced earth tremor. A tall column of smoke was seen rising from the Southern Alps, but no wreckage has yet been found—*A.P.*

### READERS' VIEWS :

We have had some very interesting letters recently, and promise to find space for some at the soonest opportunity. It's regretted, however, that our "Star Letter" feature is now so irregular.

### SUGGESTED READING :

"The Reach of the Mind"—by Dr. J. B. Rhine. Now available at 2/6d. as a Pelican book. Most important to all interested in paranormal research, telepathy, etc.

fuzzy

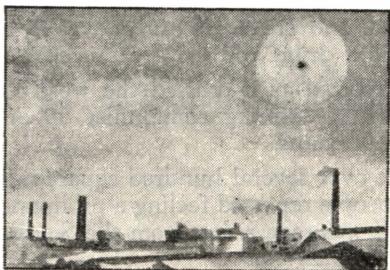
photos —

# RADIATION?

We were expecting a heavy mail protesting at our frankly expressed opinion of Cedric Allingham's Martian Saucer pictures\*—but this did not materialise, and we can only conclude that most readers were in agreement !

JUST two arguments have been put to us concerning the Allingham photos. One reader considers they are most likely genuine because the Martian was NOT photographed alongside his Saucer. She feels sure that, were it a fake, this would have been the most likely way it would have been portrayed.

Well, it may be "most likely"—but such a proposition is fraught with difficulties. There are three ways it could have been done. One would be to cut out a picture of a man, paste it onto a photo—or drawing—of a Saucer, and re-photograph the result. Another would be to take a close-up of a model saucer, with the "Martian" standing in a suitable position many yards to the rear, so that he looked the appropriate size—and the third method would entail building a full sized 'mock-up' of a Saucer, which would just about call for a Hollywood props department !



DELFT—Holland

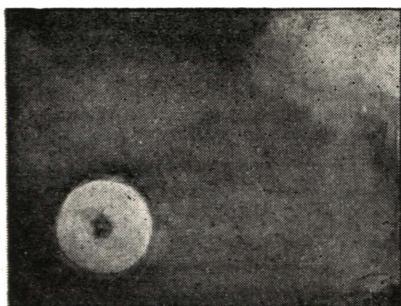
In fact, if anyone comes up with a photo of a Martian climbing into his Saucer, we'd be inclined to believe it was genuine ! At anyrate, the first two methods would be easily detectable.

The other suggestion was that spherical aberration caused the fuzziness—not table-top photography. But this effect would have been more marked at the edges of the picture, and not carry right across as it does.

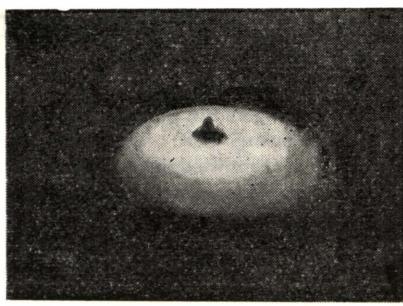
It will be seen (*right*) that the rim—being nearest—is the most out-of-focus—and the "antenna" quite sharp. Now, lest it be suggested that the photo was taken from close enough to produce this effect (i.e. less than 25ft.)—it should be remembered that Mr. Allingham states in his book that he estimated the ship to be **fifty feet** in diameter. He would have needed a super-dooper wide-angle lens to get as much of it in the picture as is shown—from as close a range as that.

You'll notice, too, that the **horizon** is all out of focus. Which brings us back to our original argument : **depth of field** ! So we remain un-

\* "Flying Saucer from Mars"—Fdk. Muller, 1954—reviewed last issue.



HELSINKI



NEW ZEALAND

shaken in our view that the Flying Saucer from Mars landed on a table-top. Unless . . . unless . . .

A point which has struck the writer since, however, is that there may be some sort of radiation, or force-field effect which can have queer results on photographic film.

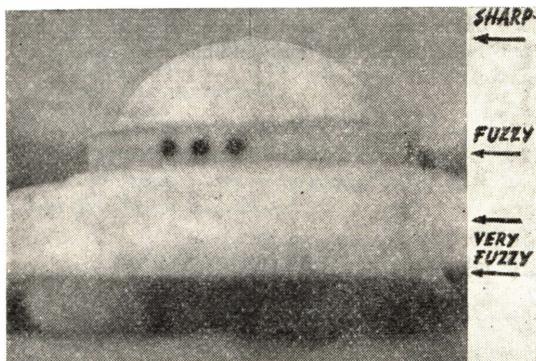
The accompanying illustrations show clearly that there is—consistently—a saucer-like radiation (or something) surrounding the actual U.F.O.'s—and we don't think there can be much doubt as to the authenticity of the originals of these pictures\*, bearing in mind the different parts of the world from which they come, and the remarkable resemblance they bear to one another.

The picture from DELFT is said to have been taken of the black speck alone. The **photographer** could not see the halo at the time, so it must be either radiation or some trick of the light and the lens-components.

Except that an exactly similar experience is described by a photographer who got this effect with a photo of "black specks" taken at a Christchurch (N.Z.) air pageant!—which would tend to rule out Arthur Clarke's gimmick of "street-lamp saucers."

Courtesy of Frederick Muller Ltd.

*—concluded overleaf*



\* Reproductions here are from artist's impressions, as we have not yet had permission to reproduce the actual photos.

## another "SUSPECT" story!

We find that the article about the alleged Heligoland landing—investigated in our last issue—was originally published in the American magazine, SIR. (The lesser-known VALOR published it without any acknowledgment and must therefore face any loss of confidence on the part of its readers that may ensue.)

"SIR" now comes up with another very dubious yarn, in its February 1955 edition. This is alleged to be by an Australian "sheep-grower," W. C. Hall, who tells of flying objects that looked like petrol tanks which came down on his ranch in North Queensland.

The six saucers, he says, were about 30ft. tall, and elliptical in shape, white in colour with a blue streak around their middle sections. About twelve people got out but on seeing Hall, on his horse, scurried back into their craft and took off with a whirring noise. Hall fell to the ground, apparently paralysed, and experienced a vision of "peace and plenty."

Now he claims there have been mutations amongst the animals on his farm—chickens with too many feet, two-headed turtles, and so on.

This was supposed to have happened on a dull, grey, overcast day—but the accompanying photograph (?) depicts a bell-shaped—not cylindrical—saucer, in a very broken sky, and the sheep are casting strong shadows, in the sunlight !

★ We understand this case is being looked into by the Australian FS Bureau, and hope to publish their findings next issue.

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## fuzzy photos - RADIATION ?

*continued from previous page*

And the HELSINKI picture shows this perimeter reflecting the light of the sun. Question : Can a force-field reflect light ?—One for you, Mr. Cramp ! We think this 'halo' could be either part of the actual ship or a force-field. And we say also that no known effects could be responsible for the ALLINGHAM fuzziness—except ultra-close range.

But when one starts bringing in unknown quantities like radiation, of course, fuzzy photos are anybody's guess !

# B.F.S.B. *Newsletter*

**71 CHEDWORTH RD., HORFIELD, BRISTOL**

March, 1955.

Dear Colleagues,

I regret greatly to have to preface this letter with the news that at the last General Meeting held at Carwardines' Cafe Bristol on the 2nd March I tendered my pending resignation as Secretary to the Bureau. This became essential in view of the fact that since the re-forming of Civil Defence some years ago I have taken a very active part as a part-time instructor with my firm. This has led to the opportunity of accepting an Assistant Instructorship (full-time) in Civil Defence and as far as is known at the present time my new establishment falls due towards the end of August. Therefore I have chosen to announce it early with a view to being able to coach my successor for some four months or so. At the above mentioned meeting Mr. D. Rudman volunteered to understudy me in this respect, and already several sessions have been held together with Mr. James our respected Registrar, and I feel certain that the unbounded enthusiasm that Mr. Rudman has displayed since joining the Bureau in I.F.S.B. days is a good augur for the future, as his over-all knowledge of saucer lore and allied phenomena is truly remarkable. For some months however I hope to continue to have the pleasure to address all old friends through the medium of this letter, and on the change-over becoming final to assist where I am able as a member of the Committee of B.F.S.B.

With regard to the popular talks illustrated by episcope which have been almost a fortnightly occurrence throughout the winter, I have great pleasure in stating that my eldest son Denis has most ably taken up the cudgels on my behalf, and, in company with our Director of Research Mr. Graham Knewstub and our esteemed Hon. Treasurer Mr. Harold Cobley, will continue to be a most competent team of public lecturers on the subject of "Flying Saucers."



**MONTHLY MEETINGS.** These continue to be a pronounced success, and following on quite an extensive lantern show of the various photographs and drawings collected by the Bureau, and concluded by informative talks on the subject by Messrs. Knewstub and Cobley, a series of "Planned Discussions" have commenced, having firstly put people in the picture as to the story so far.

These discussions are to be a monthly feature for some time ahead, during which anyone who cares to discuss the matter sensibly will find many able opponents. Endeavour is also made monthly to procure a speaker on the subject, or on anything relative of interest to the members as a whole.

**MEMBERSHIP.** This remains distinctly healthy, and despite the increase in subscription rates finances remain steady, though at the moment the subject of renewals is under investigation. May I suggest that if any member is in doubt as to whether his or her renewal is due to please drop me a card. Failing this if such member is in possession of his original receipt, then his renewal falls due a year later. It has been decided that Membership Cards need not be returned with each renewal for stamping, in view of the colossal amount of work entailed—this being a purely voluntary organisation. Mr. James is making a most noble effort on the indexing system, and without a doubt the day will soon arrive when he will have every member duly registered and checked, in which



case members will be informed under cover of the magazine as to when their renewals fall due, by the insertion of the appropriate form. However, do please do this off your own bat at present, and remember the whole fabric of the B.F.S.B. and F.S.C. depends on your co-operation and subscriptions.

**BADGES.** Surprisingly few people have claimed badges for which money was sent during a period some months ago when these were out of stock, so if you are in possession of a receipt for same, or a letter stating it was to follow, and you still have NOT received your badge, please drop me a postcard to this effect. This is also applicable to No. 6 **Flying Saucer News**—featuring the Captain Howard B.O.A.C. Strato-cruiser sighting—and which can be now supplied free if the above conditions entail. However, the latter can be purchased at 1/- per copy plus postage.

**TRANSFERS.** And now all you car and motorcycle owners—how about the club transfer in “glorious Technicolor” for your windscreen? This goes for aircraft owners as well! It is indeed a very neat emblem (designed by Richard Hughes) and your President Dr. R. Irving-Bell is proud to carry it on his own car. (Priced at 9d. each.)

**ADAMSKI'S NEW BOOK.** This is to be called “Inside the Space Ships” but although I am in direct touch with Mr. Adamski I have not yet received the official publishing date. Full information will be circulated via this magazine as soon as it becomes available. With regard to his proposed visit to this country—which had to be postponed due to illness and other considerations, I have had Mr. Adamski's word that should he ever come to Europe, an especial visit to the Bureau will be one of his chief concerns.

**MR. CEDRIC ALLINGHAM.** Has delivered a talk on Flying Saucers to members and guests of the Tunbridge Wells group, which was extremely well received, says Group Secretary, Mrs. Freda Dann, but up to the moment no direct contact has been made either way with regard to your H.Q. It is hoped that he may be persuaded to come and talk to us when his health and other conditions permit. I see that he was to speak at a space-craft convention this month at Giant Rock, Calif. U.S.A., under the auspices of Mr. George Van Tassel an exponent of saucers of some note in U.S.A. of which doubtless we shall hear more in due course.

**SUMMER CONVENTION.** No news has yet been received from Miss June Barlow-Morris as to this estimable project, so don't fight shy of letting the Bureau have your opinion on the subject.

**“LIFE” MEMBERSHIP.** I would like to point out that for some time past this feature has been eliminated, not without some regret, but so many people are claiming these days to having seen saucers, it became imperative to delete this clause in our make-up whereby anyone sending a press-cutting stating that he or she had seen a U.F.O. automatically became a free member for life. This is not to say we do not believe such members ever saw such objects, but that it was becoming most uneconomical. Sorry folks!

**FLYING SAUCER CLUBS.** A list now exists within the Bureau of saucer clubs throughout the world, and I am pleased to say this information can be given should any of our members (B.F.S.B. and F.S.C.) wish to contact them direct concerning their official literature . . . but do please at least enclose a stamped addressed envelope !

**TO ALL NEWCOMERS.** Approximately fifty sets of American Magazine Article reprints still exist at a price of 3/- plus postage per set of three. These cover the main classical cases and radar angle etc, and are extremely good value for the money, and inestimable if you desire to talk ably on the subject of Flying Saucers.

**TECHNICAL REPORT.** By the time this is in print the first sixpenny Research Bulletin will have reached all applicants, but it is with profound apologies I have to announce that the Technical Report for which so many of you have sent money is at present held up due to the extreme pressure of his normal work that has tied down our Director of Research Mr. Graham Knewstub.

As so often reiterated—this is a voluntary organisation—and obviously one's bread and butter comes first. Please allow me to assure you all, that this will be forthcoming as soon as conditions permit, and to draw on any reserves of patience you may possess ! Receipts for all monies, however, have been despatched.

**BACK NUMBERS.** If continuance of membership permits the magazine always to be printed, the opportunity may arise for your Hon. Editor, Mr. Richard Hughes, to produce a bulk issue of No's 1 to 5 of the Flying Saucer News in response to the many letters received for individual back numbers. However, it is hoped that this would take the form of a single publication \*embodying the contents of the above in full, priced commensurately, and I would welcome a postcard from those readers interested so that we may decide whether such a course would be economical, in view of the immense amount of duplicating work involved. Price would be around the 4/6d. mark I would think.

**OUTLOOK.** Make no mistake about it friends that saucers so-called are being reported more than ever from every part of the globe, and though these for some unaccountable reason in many cases do not get into the national dailies they cannot be lightly dismissed, so rest assured we are continuing our investigations on your behalf.

Yours fraternally,

\* I don't think I could ever manage a 96-page "book" like that, Eddie ! Besides, you'll get the earlier issues sooner if I can spread the work out.

Ed.



*Announcing the*

## **• Flying Saucer News' International Literary Award**

To be voted annually to the writer of the most outstanding contribution to saucer Thought or Research

★ Please do not ask for details yet—more next issue !

# U.F.O. picture from AFRICA

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MR. EUGENE MEYER, art master at Durban High School, claims he watched this strange object hovering over Durban on July 31st, 1954, and took a photograph (right) of it with his box camera.

Some months later he went to a commissioner for oaths and signed an affidavit swearing to his experience. His attention had been attracted to the object by some natives who were pointing skywards. Its shape, he said, appeared to change from elliptical to circular, and it was of a greyish colour, oscillating slowly between two points over a clump of trees. Every now and then it would ascend vertically. There was no sound or smoke.

Mr. Meyer has formed the DURBAN FLYING SAUCER CLUB as a result of his experience—with headquarters in a room at the Natal University—and is also in touch with our good friend Glyn Benjamin, our Rhodesian Representative (who reminds us he is actually a Welshman—and proud of it!)—through whom we received the photo and permission to reproduce it.

A full three-page article on the schoolmaster's experience appeared in the December 3rd issue of "OUTSPAN," the popular South African periodical.

Sightings are very frequent in Africa, and recent ones have included another photograph, taken at Cape Province, on Christmas Day, 1954—showing a cigar-shaped object producing a heavy vapour trail. The following Saturday, children at Bloemfontein who were watching vultures circling in the clear sky, witnessed the passage of another cigar-shaped, aluminium coloured craft—which was also observed by the local stationmaster through binoculars. He said it was in view for three hours.

In Pretoria on December 7th a meteorologist released a balloon and was preparing to make upper-air observations—when he picked up in his theodolite, a hemisphere, with the sun reflecting off the sloping top. He said it was moving slowly, and would hover around, and then continue on its course, north-eastwards.

The administrator of Danane territory—on the Ivory Coast—M. Vernhet, and his wife said they saw a "luminous, egg-shaped object" in the sky for 30 minutes, before it flew silently out of sight.

Vice-president of the Kenya Astronomical Association, Mr. G. Duncan Fletcher, has also seen a U.F.O.—and stated in Nairobi that he thought that visitors from space were mapping the continent as part of their programme covering the entire globe.

This, of course, is merely emphasising the obvious, to hardened Saucerers—but it is a notable statement, coming from the Astronomical world!





# BOOK REVIEWS

## ● "FLYING SAUCERS AND COMMONSENSE"

By Waveney Girvan. (Muller : 10/6d.)

*ILLUSTRATED's* serialisation (*sic*) managed to give a quite erroneous impression of this latest addition to saucer literature. In actual fact, it does not consist mainly of a re-re-reiteration of the same old classic cases. This part is only incidental and was probably singled out by the periodical because the editors thought it would have more sensational appeal.

Mr. Girvan himself says, in the book, that he is not in favour of pre-publication serialising of books, as he feels it is detrimental to the book itself.

He is so right.

The unusual aspect of this volume is that the author examines closely the sceptic's case against the interplanetary Saucer. And he really makes them look rather foolish. Also, a most interesting and enjoyable "peep behind the scenes" of the publishing world is given, especially with regard to the publication of *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, in 1953, and the subsequent developments.

The latter parts of the text are surprisingly up-to-date, and include a review of the European saucer-visitations of last Autumn.

Altogether, very interesting reading, and well worth a place on any Saucerer's bookshelf, as being one of the sanest and most commonsense books on Saucers yet written !

## ● "THE WHITE SANDS INCIDENT"

By Daniel Fry. (New Age Publishing Co., U.S.A.)

Our somewhat sarcastic reference to this book—a couple of issues back—was made before we had access to it. Now we've read it, we can't help having a nagging feeling that it could quite easily be true !

Mr. Fry offers no proof of any kind—and only the sketchiest of diagrams—but the description of the remote-controlled Saucer in which he claims to have been given a ride fits exactly with Leonard Cramp's hypothesis\* on saucers' force-field motivation !

And, since Cramp's theory was developed some years ago—but had not been published until after the Fry story, there doesn't seem room for any tailoring of the story to fit.

Food for thought, indeed !

\* "Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer"—Werner Laurie, 1954.



# Saucer Romance

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AL BENDER WEDS

B.F.S.B. TREASURER'S SISTER-IN-LAW !

ON October 16th last, AL BENDER (whose organisation, the International Flying Saucer Bureau, was mysteriously closed down at the request of "three men in dark suits" twelve months previously) was married to BETTY JENNETT—sister-in-law of Harold Cobley, BFSB's Hon. Treasurer.

Betty and Al had been corresponding for some time—originally about Saucers!—and became engaged when she visited the U.S. earlier in the year.

We understand that married life is suiting the pair just fine—and Betty is most impressed by American generosity and hospitality. They plan to visit England soon, and may even decide to settle here later on.

It's not related, however, how many of the wedding guests wore dark suits!




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## Observation Post

"URANUS"—the saucer-review edited by our good friend Eric Biddle—had an extremely interesting article in its February 1955 issue, which we think is one of the most outstanding contributions to saucer literature for some time.

In it, the author, M. Rene Fouere, discusses the possibility of the Saucers actually being "Disc creatures" whose natural habitat is . . . Outer Space. This may seem fantastic—and even vaguely humorous—at first glance—but the article is extremely well thought out and written.

URANUS (as stated, in its inaugural leaflet) is more a discussive review than a news magazine—and has also been featuring some very interesting points of view from its readers—a feature we don't seem to have been able to find much space for of late!

"PRACTICAL MECHANICS"—despite its usual hard-headedness—has been discussing FS of late, and the February 1955 issue has some readers letters featuring many points of view.

—continued on back page

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## LATE NEWS—

### COMET-LIKE OBJECT TRAVERSES BRITISH ISLES

On March 25th—most morning newspapers carried the story of a "THING in the Sky"—which created quite a sensation over the length of the country the previous night.

Reports varied considerably, but taking the half-dozen we have on going to Press, it seems that the object looked the size of an aircraft seen from several miles away—and was followed by a pink vapour trail. There were three explosion-like flares (though soundless)—first green, then orange and then green again, as the THING zigzagged northwards.

It was seen mainly over west-coast areas, but travelled right up north—and took 45 minutes to get to Glasgow. We make this in the region of 650 mph—despite the "estimated" speed of 2000 mph.

Fire alarms were given in many areas—but nothing crashed to earth!

Some of the places having a grandstand view were: Gloucester, Bristol, Potters Bar, Hemel Hempstead and Blackbushe—and it was also seen by R.A.F. crews.

**TAILPIECE.** Said an Air Ministry Official: "It was probably a meteorite, but it could have been a glimpse of the Northern Lights." (Come, come, Air Ministry—you can do better than that! WE know it was Hop-along Cassidy, riding a celestial Mule Train to meet the Shrimp Boats coming in.)

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No. 1 RESEARCH BULLETIN now ready (see page 6) gives full details of the fleet of 19 Saucers which flew less than 300 yards from a Brazilian air-liner bound for RIO DE JANIERO last November—and caused near-panic among the passengers.

BFSB has had a long communiqué from the British Consul at Rio, on the subject, and this is included in the Bulletin. (Available to members only—price 6d.)

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## OBSERVATION POST

*continued from page 18*

Another magazine featuring Saucer items is "FATE"—now at its seventh edition. The number five issue carried an article by our own Group Leader for Buckinghamshire—JUNE KYNASTON—who interviewed no lesser persons than Prof. A. M. Low, Neville Duke, Bertrand Russell, Sir Harold Spencer Jones, Peter Haigh and Shaw Desmond. More Saucer items are promised for future issues.

"AUTHENTIC" Science Fiction magazine has been featuring some interesting saucer articles. One, by Ted Tubb (of all people!) in the January issue, dealt with the possible reactions of humans meeting an alien for the first time. A follow-up feature in the February issue asks: "When the Flying Saucers Land—will YOU be ready?" Both are interesting, and well written.